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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 05 GENEVA 001401

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DTRA FOR OSA
DIA FOR RAR-3

E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/07/2015

TAGS: PARM KACT US RS UP BO KZ START JCIC INF
SUBJECT: JCIC-XXVII: (U) WORKING GROUP MEETING ON
VANDENBERG VISIT OFFER AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION
NOTIFICATION FORMATS

REF: A. STATE 53670 (JCIC-DIP-05-003)
1B. GENEVA 1339 (JCIC-XXVII-009)
1C. 04 GENEVA 856 (JCIC-XXVI-005)

Classified By: Dr. George W. Look, U.S. Representative
to the Joint Compliance and Inspection Commission (JCIC).
Reason: 1.4 (b) and (d).

11. (U) This is JCIC-XXVII-017.
12. (U) Meeting Date: June 2, 2005
Time: 3:00 - 5:05 P.M.
Place: Russian Mission, Geneva

SUMMARY

13. (S) A Working Group Meeting was held at the Russian Mission on June 2, 2005, at which Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, and the United States were represented; Kazakhstan was not represented. The Parties discussed the U.S. offer of a one-time visit to the silo launchers that the United States had attributed to the Vandenberg Space Launch Facility (REF A) and Ground Transportation notifications issues.
14. (S) The U.S. Delegation outlined the parameters for the visit and assured the other Parties that the United States would not view acceptance of the offer as an indication that the other Parties no longer had concerns about the reattribution of silos to the Vandenberg Space Launch Facility. The U.S. Delegation also reminded the other Parties that the visit must be conducted prior to June 1, 12006.
15. (S) The U.S. Delegation said it would not discuss the Russian-proposed ground transportation formats (REF B) because the draft formats specified changes to the content of the Format 144 notifications. The U.S. Delegation sought only to distinguish ground transportation notifications from other Format 144 messages by the use of suffixes. After lengthy discussion, the Russian Delegation withdrew its proposed formats, and the Parties reached substantive agreement whereby the Parties would add five letter suffixes -- A, B, C, D and E - to the proposed letters under discussion, which would authorize their use on subsequent NRRC Format 144 notifications when used for ground transportation. It would be up to the respective NRRCs to agree on which suffix would be applied to the individuals notification requirements spelled out in the ground transportation agreement.

VANDENBERG: QUESTIONS REGARDING THE VISIT

16. (S) At a Working Group Meeting at the Russian Mission on June 2, 2005, Mullins began by stating that the United States did not view acceptance of the U.S.-proposed offer to visit the silo launchers that had been reattributed to the Vandenberg Space Launch Facility as an indication that the other Parties no longer had concerns about the reattributed launchers at the Vandenberg Space Launch Facility. He added that the visit must be conducted before June 1, 2006, for operational reasons. He provided the other Parties with written parameters for the visit.

Begin text of notional paper that was provided (undated):

General Parameters for the Visit

- The visit will be conducted on a date mutually agreed upon by the Parties. However, it must be conducted before June 1, 12006.
- The visit will not be conducted in conjunction with a START inspection or sequentially following a START inspection.
- Although the visit will not be a START inspection, the

United States will provide the observers with transportation, lodging, meals, and, as necessary, medical services while they are in the United States.

-- The United States will treat the observers with due respect and take appropriate measures to ensure their safety while they are in the United States.

-- The observers will be allowed to visit all five reattributed silos at the Vandenberg Space Launch Facility.

-- The visit is expected to require no more than one day, not including travel time.

Visit Details

-- A total of ten observers, including interpreters, will be allowed to participate in the visit. Visiting Parties must coordinate among themselves and provide the United States with a listing of who will attend.

-- The observers will be escorted by U.S. personnel to the Vandenberg Space Launch Facility from the West Coast Point of Entry.

-- The United States will conduct a pre-visit briefing at Vandenberg.

-- The observers will be allowed to visit each reattributed silo in the observers' order of preference.

-- The observers will be allowed the opportunity to go below grade at the four silos modified to contain Ground-Based Interceptors (GBIs) and view those silos from the Launch Equipment Room.

-- The observers will be allowed to measure the diameter of any emplaced GBIs to confirm they are not START-accountable items of inspection in accordance with START measurement procedures.

-- The clamshell doors of the four modified silos will remain closed during the visit.

-- The observers will be allowed the opportunity to view the unmodified silo from ground level through the open silo door.

-- The observers will be escorted back to the West Coast POE for departure home.

End text.

17. (S) Fedorchenko asked whether the visit would be a joint visit or inspection. He noted that the written parameters outlined several START inspection procedures. He asked whether the JCIC agreement on joint inspections (sic) applied with regard to the proportional representation by the Parties, in which case no less than seven members of the visiting delegation should be from Russia.

18. (S) Mullins repeated that the United States is offering a visit, not a START inspection. The offer is for a single visit, and it is up to the other Parties to determine among themselves who will participate in the visit. The United States will pay all associated costs of the visit while the other Parties are in the United States, but the other Parties must pay their own round-trip transportation costs to and from their own respective country to the West Coast POE.

19. (S) Shevtsov asked what were the U.S. objectives or purpose for the visit. Mullins stated that the visit would provide an opportunity for the other Parties to view all five silos reattributed to the Vandenberg Space Launch Facility, and to confirm that the emplaced GBIs are not strategic offensive arms. The other Parties will also be able to see that the empty silos do not contain items of inspection (IOI). The offer is not being made within the context of START, but as a positive measure without preconditions.

10. (S) In response to specific questions, Mullins provided the following information. The silos have been modified to launch GBIs, not converted under the treaty. Two modified silos have emplaced GBIs, and the other two modified silos are empty. The other Parties will not be allowed to measure the silos, but they will be allowed to measure the diameter of the GBIs pursuant to START procedures to confirm they are not IOI. No additional documentation will be provided to the other Parties following the visit, nor will a final report be expected. Mullins also declined to discuss whether interceptors would be emplaced at other facilities, indicating he did not know the Missile Defense Agency's plans. When asked why the United States insisted on a June 1, 2006 cutoff date for the inspection, Mullins explained that it was a practical matter and not due to scheduled launch activity. Shevtsov stated that Ukraine intends to participate in the visit if it occurs. Fedorchenko said

Russia would take the U.S. offer for a visit under advisement.

PARTIES AGREE TO ADD SUFFIXES TO GROUND
TRANSPORTATION NOTIFICATION FORMATS

¶11. (S) Mullins deferred discussion on the Russian-proposed ground transportation formats (REF B), stating that the objective of exchanging the letters during this session was to simply allow for the use of suffixes to the already existing free-flowing Format 144; not to negotiate or agree to new 144 Formats. The specific content of each sending Party's ground transportation-related 144s is determined by the ground transportation agreement, which the U.S. had no interest in reopening. Suffixes would not alter the structure and content of the information conveyed in START Format 144 ground transportation notifications that are exchanged by the Parties, as required by the March 20, 2002 Ground Transportation Agreement. Lengthy discussion ensued between the Parties regarding both the number of suffixes to be added to the Format 144 message number and the information to be provided in formats.

¶12. (S) Disagreement arose regarding Russia's insistence that border-crossing information be required in U.S. Format 144 ground transportation notifications. Mullins declared this as unacceptable. He explained that the Russian trucking company, the U.S. monitors, and Russian Department 162 at Votkinsk had a good working relationship with regard to ground transportation missions. The best solution is to continue the current practice, where the Russian trucking company determines which route it will take rather than the United States being held responsible for border-crossing information in the NRRC message. Mullins added that the Russian position contravened the Ground Transportation Agreement that had been completed in 2002. Ryzhkov stated that Russia would consider border-crossing information to be tentative and would remain flexible if timelines were not met. Russia wanted the information to provide to its border control and customs agencies to facilitate transfer of equipment across the Belarus border. Mullins responded that the U.S. cargo was commercial cargo, not diplomatic cargo. Furthermore, the draft Format 144s submitted by Russia at the first meeting had Russia providing locations and timelines for border-crossings. Now, Russia was proposing for the United States to provide border-crossing information. After consultation on the Russian side, Fedorchenko asserted that none of the Parties sought to change the content of the Format 144s, but all agreed to add suffixes to the formats to distinguish ground transportation notifications from other Format 144 notifications. He withdrew the Russian-proposed formats from the table.

¶13. (S) Acknowledging that the Parties were close to agreement on the issue, and to ensure mutual understanding, Mullins repeated the U.S. position that border-crossing information should not be provided in the Format 144 notifications used for ground transportation. He suggested that, for ground transportation notifications, the Parties agree to add five suffixes, A-B-C-D-E, to the Format 144 notifications without comment, and defer to the respective NRRCs to agree on which suffixes applied to which requirements in the Ground Transportation Agreement. The proposed exchange of letters that would be completed during this session of the JCIC will include the suffixes A, B, C, D and E.

¶14. (S) Fedorchenko agreed to the exchange of letters provided by the United States on May 31, 2005 (REF C). He then proposed to amend the Russian draft documents to reflect agreement. Mullins said he was confident that the Parties had reached substantive agreement on the issue.

¶15. (U) Documents exchanged: None.

¶16. (U) Participants:

U.S.

Mr. Mullins
Mr. Dunn
Col(sel) Emig
Mr. Herrick
Mr. Jones
Mr. Miller
Maj Mitchner
Mr. Sessions
Mr. Smith
Mr. Singer
Mr. Tiersky
LCDR Woods
Dr. Hopkins (Int)

Belarus

Mr. Grinevich

Russia

Col Fedorchenko
Mr. Bolotov
Ms. Kotkova
Mr. Maksimenko
Col Razumov
Col Ryzhkov
Mr. Shabalin
Mr. Smirnov
Ms. Sorokina
Mr. Yegorov
Mr. Anisimov (Int)

Ukraine

Dr. Shevtsov
Col Taran

17. (U) Look sends.
Moley